

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 027602

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:BEXP, CM

SUBJECT: US COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE, YAOUNDE

1. THERE FOLLOWS GREETINGS TO THE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS
ATTENDING US COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE, YAOUNDE,
FROM SECRETARY OF COMMERCE RICHARDSON.

2. SOON AFTER PRESIDENT FORD SUBMITTED MY NOMINATION AS
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE TO THE SENATE, AMBASSADOR SPIRO
INVITED ME TO ATTEND YOUR CONFERENCE. I WROTE HIM AT THE
TIME THAT I FOUND HIS ENTHUSIASM - WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO
AN ATTACK OF PREMATURE LOCALITIS - INFECTIOUS AND THAT I
COULDN'T THINK OF A MORE APPROPRIATE WAY TO LAUNCH MY NEW
COMMERCE CAREER. HOWEVER, AS I HAVE BEEN SWORN IN TODAY
I JUST WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET AWAY DURING THIS WEEK. BUT
I SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEND MY GREETINGS
TO MY OLD COLLEAGUES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND MY NEW
COLLEAGUES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WHO WILL BE
COLLABORATING IN YAOUNDE DURING THE AFRICA COMMERCIAL
OFFICER'S CONFERENCE.

3. IN A WORLD OF RAPIDLY CHANGING ECONOMIC ORDER, EXPORTS

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HAVE NEVER BEEN OF GREATER CONSEQUENCE TO AMERICA, NOR YOUR

EFFORTS MORE VITAL. EVEN THOUGH WE ARE RUNNING AN
IMPRESSIVE TRADE SURPLUS TODAY, IT IS CERTAINLY POSSIBLE
THAT NEXT YEAR, ON A COST-INSURANCE-FREIGHT ACCOUNTING, WE

MAY AGAIN SUFFER A DEFICIT. THEREFORE, IN THE MONTHS AHEAD
I SHALL STRIVE TO INSURE THAT AMERICA VIGOROUSLY PURSUES
A POLICY OF EXPORT PROMOTION, AND I KNOW THAT I SHALL HAVE
THE SUPPORT OF EACH OF YOU IN THE FIELD. BETWEEN YOUR
EFFORTS ABROAD AND OUR EFFORTS AT HOME, WE SHALL CONTINUE
TO MAINTAIN FOR AMERICA A FAVORABLE BALANCE OF TRADE.
MY THANKS TO EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION, SERVICE,
AND PERSEVERANCE. INGERSOLL

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